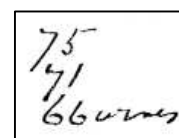
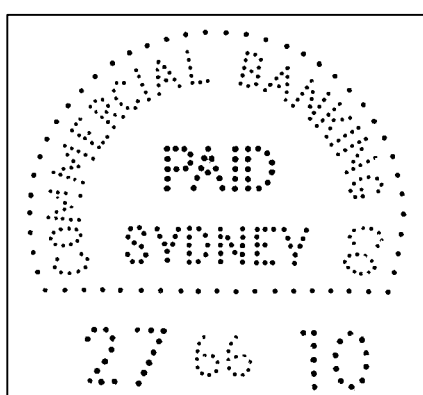


## Perfin Hole Sizes.

Currently there are **24,803** different Perfins to be found on the Postage Stamps of Great Britain, the vast majority of which have holes that are of a consistent size throughout the pattern. This makes sense from an engineering perspective, and probably from an operational point of view as well. However, there are a few that have deliberately included either smaller or larger diameter pins no doubt to emphasize some aspect of the pattern. Having said that, as a general observation based mainly on common sense, the finer the pins the more likely they are to suffer breakage during operation!

Joseph Sloper often used different sized drills in the manufacture of the dies he fitted to some of his early perforating presses, as the following 1866 extract from one of his ledgers shows.



Here **three** sizes of drill have been used to take 66, 71 and 75 sized 'wires'. The corresponding drill diameters in inches are:

66 - 0.033", 71 - 0.026", 75 - 0.021".

The catalyst for this mini Study was chancing upon an example of "**G/LTD.**" (G3233.01), known used briefly 1900-1903 in London, Middlesex (so north of the Thames), although as yet the user is unknown. Here, unusually large diameter pins have been used to give prominence to the "**G**". No doubt, once the user has been discovered, the reason may become apparent.

1900-1903



G3233.01



1885-1941



S0490.01

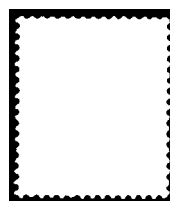
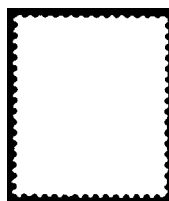


Another interesting example, "**SB/Crown**" (S0490.01), shows the use of thirteen larger holes distributed throughout the design, no doubt in this case to emphasize the 'Jewels' in the Crown. This is the Trade Mark used by **Stringer Brothers**, Iron & Steel Stockholders, Albion Iron Works, West Bromwich, Staffs. The die was an 'in house' die used by **J Sloper & Co Ltd** to perforate stamps **for** 'Stringer Brothers', and would have been destroyed during an air raid on London which took place on the night of 10<sup>th</sup> May 1941. A casualty of the bombing was Sloper's Budge Row premises, which is where the 'in house' dies were kept.

What follows is an alphabetical trawl through the 'Gault' Catalogue of G.B. Perfins, fishing out, and illustrating where possible, dies that use different diameter pins in their design.

- **Anglo-Bavarian Brewery Co** - H/O Commercial Rd, Shepton Mallet, Somerset.

1870-1885



A0520.01M

- **Ackroyd Bros Ltd** - Wool Merchants, Imperial Buildings, Bolton Rd, Bradford.

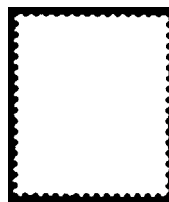
1915-1965



A0830.01M

- **User unknown** - no known postmarks.

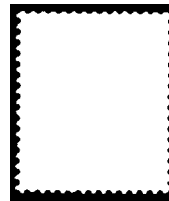
1915-1920



A0886.01

- **Andrew Barrett & Sons** - Brush Mfrs etc., 63-64 Piccadilly, London W.

1883-1910



A0890.01

- **Ø Andrew Barrett & Sons** - Brush Mfrs etc., 63-64 Piccadilly, London W.

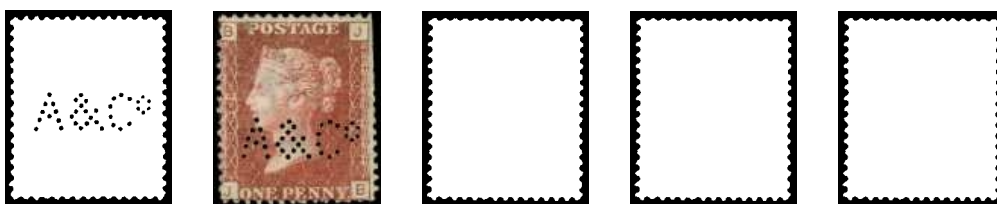
1900-1915



A0895.01

- **Ø Atkins & Co** - Pure Water Filter Mfrs, 62 Fleet St, London EC.

1870-1875



A1270.07M

- **Charles Ashby & Co (Ltd in 1887)** - Ashby's Export Pale Ale Brewery, Staines, Middx.

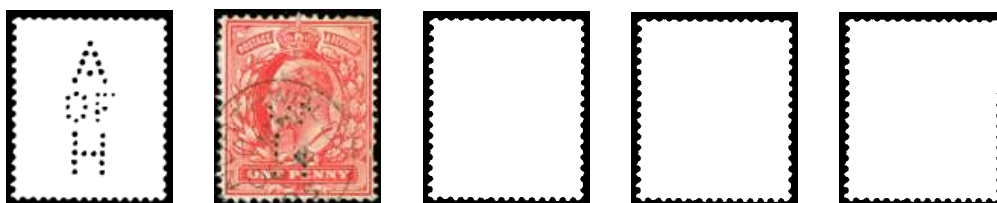
1871-1913



A1390.01

- **William Amhurst Tyssen-Amherst**, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Amherst of Hackney.

1900-1909



A4390.01

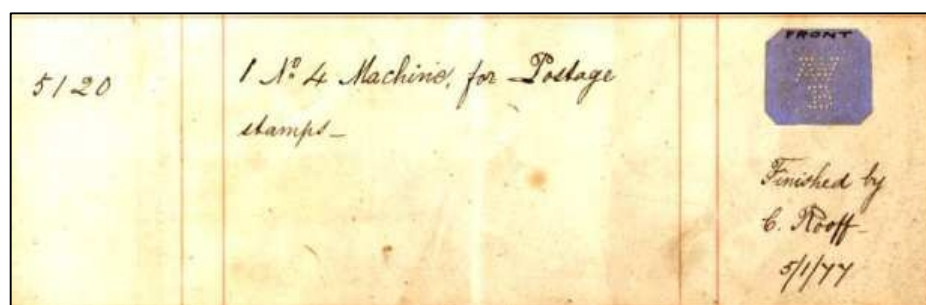
- **Altendorf & Wright**, Small Arms Mfrs & Hardware Merchants, 20 Russell St, Birmingham.

1877-1912



A5690.01m

Sloper m/c No. 5120, a N<sup>o</sup>. 4 Machine for Postage stamps, finished by 'C Roof' 5<sup>th</sup> January 1877.



From the rigorous search through the A's, it can be seen that many dies use smaller pins simply for the "o" in "C<sup>o</sup>" - similarly the "d" in "L<sup>d</sup>", and the "td" in "L<sup>td</sup>" will also be encountered. In order to greatly reduce this listing, I have decided *not* to include such dies from the B's onwards, choosing only to illustrate the more 'startling' use of different diameter pins.

- **Ø Boddington's Breweries Ltd**, Strangeways Brewery, Manchester. {Est 1778}.

c1885

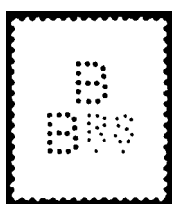


B0055.01



- **Ø Baring Brothers Ltd**, Merchants, 8 Bishopsgate St, London EC.

1873-1885



B0900.01

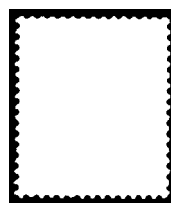


- **Ø Bradford Corporation**, Bradford, Yorks.

1888-1893



B1820.01a

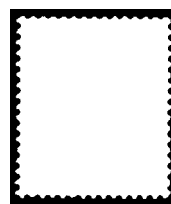


- **User unknown** - no known postmarks.

1936-1937



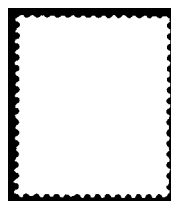
B4805.01





- **Ø The Bank of Montreal**, 47 Threadneedle St, London EC.

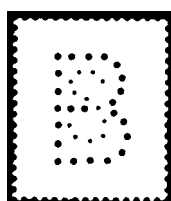
1930-1952



B5375.01

- **Birdsall & Son Ltd**, Wholesale Stationers, etc., Wood St, and Union St, Northampton.

1887-1960



B6420.01mM

- **User unknown** - London postmarks.

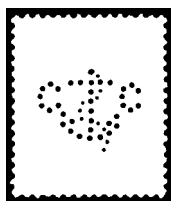
1884-1890



B7980.01

- **Clark & Co**, Anchor Thread Works, Paisley.

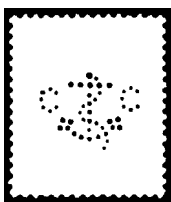
1885-1930



C1840.01M

- **Clark & Co**, Anchor Thread Works, Paisley.

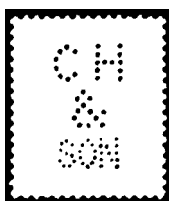
1869-1885



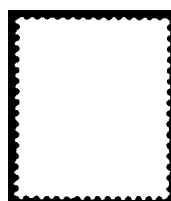
C1840.02M

- **User unknown** - Richmond, Surrey postmarks.

1880-1900

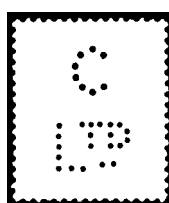


C3363.01



- **Courtaulds Ltd**, Foleshill Rd, Coventry. Also used by Lustre Fibres - Subsidiary of Courtaulds.

1913-1930

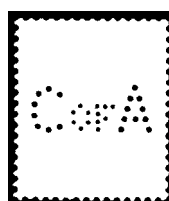


C4660.01a



- **Commonwealth of Australia** - Australian High Commission, 72 Victoria St, London SW.

1910-1950

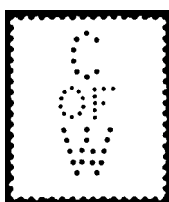


C5510.01



- **Workington Borough Council**, Town Hall, Oxford St, Workington, Cumberland.

1905-1939

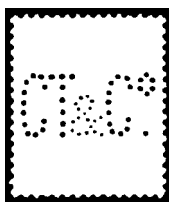


C5530.02

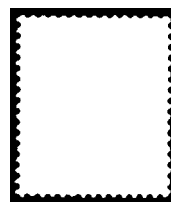


- **User unknown** - no known postmarks.

c1880



C7653.01



This version lists only those 'Little & Large' holed Perfins A-C, the rest of the alphabet plus Designs & Numbers will be included progressively.

If you spot any that have been missed, or can supply colour scans of 'missing' illustrations, I would be pleased to hear from you!

Information correct to *1<sup>st</sup> May 2019*.